- 1 CHAIR JAMES: Commissioners, I would refer you back to
- 2 our agenda for today, and we are ahead of schedule. Now, we have
- 3 several options here. We could, if Dr. Gerstein is amenable to
- 4 that, go back to our community analysis, and do that this
- 5 afternoon, and that would keep tomorrow from being quite as
- 6 crowded.
- 7 What I would like to do if we decide to do that, is to
- 8 take a short break and give them the opportunity to set up, and
- 9 then we will come back and do that.
- So with that we will take about a five or ten minute 10
- 11 break, and then we will come back together and complete that.
- 12 CHAIR JAMES: I do want to thank you all for your
- 13 flexibility, and being willing to come back this afternoon and
- 14 talk to us about our community analysis.
- 15 And, Dean, I understand you may have a few words you
- 16 want to say, as well, on some of the other subjects that have
- been discussed today. I'm going to turn it over to you and we 17
- 18 are just going to have an informal time together.
- 19 DR. GERSTEIN: Thanks very much. I would just like to
- 20 preface the subject matter that I will return to that is the part
- 21 of this morning's analysis, by responding to the questions marks
- 22 that Charlie Clotfelter raised with regard to the lottery data.
- 23 And just two remarks. One is that the questionnaire
- that regards lottery expenditures is probably the most complex 24
- 25 sequence of questions in the questionnaire, largely as a result
- 26 of, that it was built in a series of conversations between myself
- 27 and Philip Cooke, who is Charlie's partner.

- 1 And if Phil stands beneath no Commissioner when it
- 2 comes to wanting to have more, and more, and more information
- 3 come out of a limited range of instrumentation.
- 4 So it is very complex set of questions from which to
- 5 extract data, and while it is certainly conceivable that there
- 6 problems of coverage, there may be problems
- 7 insufficiency in the extent to which it covers the dollars, it is
- 8 also possible that it just plain needs to be programmed more
- 9 accurately on the analysis side than it has been in the very
- 10 short time that Professor Clotfelter and his graduate staff have
- 11 been working on the data.
- 12 But I will, in the time we have to take a look at that,
- 13 make certain that we have analyzed that module, which we haven't
- 14 done prior to now. We did look at it to make sure that it looked
- 15 fundamentally okay before turning that data set over to the team
- 16 at Duke.
- But we will run those analysis ourselves and make 17
- certain that the data are thoroughly analyzed so that if there is 18
- 19 a problem, we will be able to look at it and try and reach some
- 20 determination.
- 21 I don't believe that there is a problem in the
- direction of weighting and coverage, I think the most likely 22
- 23 problem is actually on the analytic side, but it is also possible
- that people's responses, for reasons that we can try and asses, 24
- 25 fall short in the particular kinds of questions that he was
- 26 referring to.
- 27 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Procedurally, when we get all the
- cross tabs, and the final data, and your final report, will you 28

- 1 be back with us so that you can respond to questions that that
- 2 information may generate with us?
- 3 DR. GERSTEIN: Sure.
- 4 Let me resume the discussion of this morning, in which
- 5 we were going through the sections of the overview, and had
- 6 gotten to the point of the community data base.
- 7 And this is a discussion, there are two elements of the
- 8 the community data base. analysis of One element
- 9 statistical analysis which we undertook, and the second was a
- We could think of 10 series of case studies. these as а
- 11 quantitative and a qualitative look at the same issue, with, not
- 12 so much overlapping, I guess, as complimentary kinds of data.
- 13 The first piece, which we refer to here as the impact
- 14 of casino proximity, we analyzed the social and economic changes
- 15 that occurred in 100 randomly selected counties between 1980 and
- 16 1987.
- The purpose of this analysis is to asses the effect of 17
- a casino opening within a 15 mile radius of the county, or within 18
- 19 the county.
- 20 And in selecting these places, literally it is a random
- sample of places in the U.S., and the places are within counties, 21
- 22 and the county is the basic statistical unit in most of the
- 23 federal data bases.
- 24 We found that five of the sampled communities were near
- 25 casinos, again, as measured by a 50 mile radius, and casino here
- 26 meaning one with at least 500 gaming devices in 1980.
- 27 number had risen to 45 as of 1997, with most of them opening
- somewhere in the late '80s or the early '90s. 28

- 1 And in many respects this kind of a sample in which
- 2 there are communities which had not changed in terms of their
- 3 status relative to access or proximity, others which had changed.
- 4 And so we can look over time at change in both kinds of
- 5 communities, they are randomly sampled. It really is, in many
- 6 ways, an ideal kind of observational set of data to look at.
- 7 In analyzing these, for each of these communities on an
- 8 annual basis were available, and in some cases data were not
- 9 available every year, but at intervals, such as every two years,
- 10 every three years, and in some instances, only every five years.
- 11 We looked at indicators from the Bureau of Labor
- 12 Statistics, from the National Center for Health Statistics, from
- 13 the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which keeps the uniform
- 14 crime reports, and the National Bankruptcy data, which we
- 15 obtained directly from the United States Courts.
- There is another source, you told us, they had monopoly
- 17 on these data, but when we called up the U.S. Courts it turned
- 18 out it is because they are the only people that ever ask for it.
- 19 These data, in addition to the information about
- 20 gambling expenditures, which are estimated by Christiensen
- 21 Cummings Associates as part of their work, but which we really
- 22 used to make certain we were fixing clearly on the dates at which
- 23 activities related to casino operations were active in the
- 24 vicinity of these places.
- To analyze these data we built some very
- 26 straightforward statistical models that have the specific
- 27 application of looking at different groups, and their extent of
- 28 change over time.

- 1 Modeling exercise, which is what statisticians do with
- 2 data like this means that you build a series of equations that
- 3 you think define the relationships, but they have within them the
- 4 possibility that relationships may be positive, negative, or
- 5 zero, and then you apply the data to the model and you find out
- 6 how well they fit.
- 7 And that is the exercise that we undertook here in
- 8 order to see what we could learn from this community data base.
- 9 The results of this analysis, which are laid out in a
- 10 series of tables in the report are fairly straightforward, I
- 11 think, and that is why I've tried to put these in fairly short
- 12 terms.
- 13 What we found in looking at these data sets are that
- 14 the overall rates of bankruptcy, of health indicators, and of
- 15 crime rates, and I say rates per capita, emphasized, that we are
- 16 looking at rates over population, we are looking at events over
- 17 population, because the populations of these communities change,
- 18 you can't just look at the amount of something without
- 19 controlling it.
- We found that bankruptcy, health and crime rates were
- 21 basically unchanged as an effect of the proximity of casinos.
- 22 And, again, this is controlling for all the other kinds of
- 23 changes that one can look at over time, because we have places
- 24 that are and are not in a situation of change of casino
- 25 proximity.
- We found that unemployment rates, welfare type outlays
- 27 by the local government and outlays in the form of unemployment
- 28 receipts and compensation all fell as a result of casinos
- 29 opening, by -- the range of these variables was 12 to 17 percent.

- Now, what this means is that the unemployment rate was,
- 2 say, 6 percent, it went down by 16 percent of 6 percent, which is
- 3 to say, in general unemployment rates fell by a point.
- 4 When we looked at specific kinds of earnings, so within
- 5 the kinds of jobs, the kinds of sectors, found that construction,
- 6 hospitality, which is hotel and lodging, transportation, the
- 7 recreation and amusement sector, that earnings in all of these
- 8 rose, and they rose by substantial amounts.
- 9 Although in most of these communities some of these
- 10 sectors were not very large to begin with, so when they rose,
- 11 relatively, by a substantial amount, that isn't necessarily an
- 12 absolute amount joining up very much.
- 13 We did note that bar and restaurant, that is distinct
- 14 from bars and restaurants that might be a part of hospitality,
- 15 but that is independent bar and restaurant earnings fell.
- 16 General merchandise earnings fell, and in all other sectors there
- 17 were no changes.
- 18 So there appeared to be a kind of a movement of the
- 19 kinds of jobs people had. We found, overall, the capital income
- 20 in communities stayed the same. And I should note that all of
- 21 these dollar figures were controlled, adjusted for inflation, for
- 22 CPI, so that we are looking at what the economists call constant
- 23 dollars, rather than nominal dollars.
- 24 The conclusion, I think, based on looking at these
- 25 data, is that as a result of casinos opening in proximity to
- 26 these areas, there were more jobs. There was a different mix of
- 27 jobs, as we saw some transit into the hospitality, into
- 28 construction, including housing construction. Only the
- 29 construction associated directly with building a casino, but with

- 1 the increase in the numbers of people and influx of -- into the
- 2 labor pool, moving there.
- 3 So there is a difference of jobs. But in terms of per
- 4 capita income the jobs didn't appear to be better, they appeared
- 5 to be similar to the ones that were there in terms of per capita
- 6 earnings.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Dean, can I ask you a question
- 8 about that?
- 9 DR. GERSTEIN: Yes.
- 10 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: The -- I understand the point
- 11 that per capita income and constant dollars stayed the same. But
- 12 on the other hand several kinds of transfer of payments from
- 13 unemployment and welfare, and stuff like that were reduced.
- DR. GERSTEIN: That's right.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: In the per capita income for the
- 16 base period, compared to which the later period was the same,
- 17 were the transfer of payments a part of per capita income in the
- 18 base period?
- 19 In other words, was there a change, even though per
- 20 capita income didn't change, was there a change from government
- 21 benefit payments to wages?
- 22 DR. GERSTEIN: Yes, you are absolutely right. So there
- 23 is, in essence, people -- this additional set of jobs increased
- 24 people's incomes, and this compensated to some extent for the
- 25 reduction in transfer.
- 26 And although transfer payments on the whole are a
- 27 relatively small part of the overall earnings base in these
- 28 communities, because they don't have, relative to -- I mean, they
- 29 are not by and large very high unemployment areas, although they

- 1 are not in the most part -- for the most part dynamic, that is
- 2 true. There was some shift into people getting money from jobs
- 3 rather than getting money from transfer payments.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: So if you were to make the same
- 5 measurement, and I'm not arguing with the measurement you made,
- 6 but just so I understand it, if you were to make the same
- 7 measurement, not with regard to per capita income, but with
- 8 regard to wages, wage income, there would have been an increase?
- 9 DR. GERSTEIN: It could be, could be. I think if the
- 10 earnings, if these earnings are strictly -- I would have to look
- 11 at the table, in fact.
- 12 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I thought that was out of the
- 13 table, but I couldn't be sure.
- DR. GERSTEIN: It looks like net earnings. What I
- 15 don't see is, in general, is that there is any significant change
- 16 in either net earnings or in total income. So the implication of
- 17 that is that the changes in transfer, unemployment, etcetera,
- 18 just don't affect overall income very much, because they are
- 19 relatively small, in looking at the numbers in this table on page
- 20 54.
- 21 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I understand your point about
- 22 their being small in proportion to the total community, in and of
- 23 themselves --
- 24 DR. GERSTEIN: But for the people who have gone off a
- 25 transfer payment scheme, and have a job instead, that certainly
- 26 is a change.
- 27 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Okay, that is helpful, thank
- 28 you.

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: But this is on a per capita basis,
- 2 not per individual?
- 3 DR. GERSTEIN: This is per capita. As I said, there
- 4 are clearly more jobs.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: There are more jobs.
- DR. GERSTEIN: More people working.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And what you are saying is that
- 8 the base wage may not have changed, or if it has changed it has
- 9 changed like a one percent increase, or something of that nature?
- 10 DR. GERSTEIN: That is what the data seem to conclude.
- 11 COMMISSIONER LEONE: What is the base year for the
- 12 income per capita calculation? I mean, it is constant dollars,
- 13 but off what year, is it '87?
- DR. GERSTEIN: I don't recall.
- 15 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I wonder why the 16 is below the
- 16 current per capita income in the country, by a significant
- 17 amount. Which is give or take around 20. And I just wonder if
- 18 these 100 counties are poorer counties, which would be plausible,
- 19 given where a lot of casinos are located, than -- or if there is
- 20 some other reason that you are working off a base here where it
- 21 is 16,000.
- It has also been, well, it has been -- well, most
- 23 workers have been -- had their income static or declining, per
- 24 capita income has gone up during this period because the top
- 25 workers have done a lot better.
- 26 So I wonder how these 100 counties, compared to the
- 27 country as a whole?
- DR. GERSTEIN: I will have to ask the statistician who
- 29 did this which year was --

- 1 COMMISSIONER LEONE: The country wouldn't look like
- 2 this, is what I'm saying, over this period, whatever the base
- 3 year was.
- 4 DR. GERSTEIN: I think --
- 5 COMMISSIONER LANNI: Is it possible, Dean, that part of
- 6 the answer to that is that many of the positions in casino
- 7 companies are tipped positions, and you may only be using the
- 8 base pay?
- 9 COMMISSIONER LEONE: It says total income.
- 10 COMMISSIONER LANNI: I know, but I just don't know if
- 11 that is including the tips or not. That would be a factor, I
- 12 just don't know what the answer is. You had all the benefits,
- 13 but --
- DR. GERSTEIN: Yes, I don't know the answer to that,
- 15 either. I think that is something we are going to have to look,
- 16 we can certainly look at the data and see whether tipping comes
- 17 included.
- 18 I would be inclined to think that it was, insofar as,
- 19 ordinarily when BLS collects income data they ask people to
- 20 include tip income, just as the IRS does. We can certainly look
- 21 at that data series to be sure, and I will determine, and simply
- 22 get back to you to indicate what the reference year is for the
- 23 constant dollars.
- 24 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: There is also, in terms of
- 25 Richard's comparison to the 20,000 figure, there is the question
- 26 of whether you held the dollars constant forwards or backwards,
- 27 that is in the base year or in the --
- 28 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Well, that is what I'm -- there
- 29 still should have been some growth, and particularly given the

- 1 other things that the survey says, why would these counties have
- 2 not had an increase in per capita income if all these other
- 3 things were no worse, and in some cases better.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Conceptually you could imagine a
- 5 lot of things. I mean, for example more people is certainly one,
- 6 because people tend to move to these places where there are jobs
- 7 available.
- 8 COMMISSIONER LEONE: But unemployment is not up, so
- 9 they move into jobs.
- 10 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Well, that is typically true. I
- 11 mean, in Las Vegas people come and unemployment is down. People
- 12 come in droves to Las Vegas, but the unemployment rate has held
- 13 reasonably steady.
- The other variable, depending on, again, where these
- 15 things are, a significant number of communities that have
- 16 initiated casinos have been places that used to have significant
- 17 sources of employment that are gone. For example in Illinois,
- 18 and some of the cities that initiated riverboats, they used to
- 19 have significant numbers of high paying manufacturing jobs, which
- 20 in the precise interval you studied, left.
- 21 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I mean, it is possible that there
- 22 is a coincidence that the average per capita income at the
- 23 beginning of this period is the same, at the end of this period,
- 24 in spite of all the changes that went on here, and in the country
- 25 at large. I mean, obviously that is what makes this statistic so
- 26 interesting.
- 27 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: But you are right that it is
- 28 unusual.

- 1 COMMISSIONER LEONE: It is just interesting, I just
- 2 wonder about it.
- 3 DR. GERSTEIN: Okay, I will try and answer the question
- 4 that I can't now. I don't recall that actual base year being in
- 5 the tables when I looked at them. So I will find out.
- 6 There is some suggestion in the case studies, which are
- the next item, that seem to go along with, and perhaps provide, 7
- 8 some suggestion about why in the 100 communities statistical
- 9 analysis we saw what we saw.
- 10 But, of course, this is really an attempt to look at
- 11 two different things that perhaps bear on each other, and give us
- 12 a little better insight.
- 13 In this instance we selected at random ten places, a
- 14 place being a term that the Bureau of the Census uses to define a
- 15 population center.
- 16 And, again, using the same criterion that the places
- are each ones in which a major casino opened, that is within a 50 17
- 18 mile radius.
- 19 In each of these we selected and used mostly Internet
- 20 resources, and then a little sort of snowball sampling within the
- 21 community, seven or eight individuals.
- In general we were looking, within each community, for 22
- in each of these categories, planning or business 23
- development, Chamber of Commerce, an attorney, ordinarily meaning 24
- 25 an attorney involved in the criminal bar,
- 26 development and planning. A news editor, a clinician.
- 27 there are usually a couple of clinicians, either in the mental
- health services, or social services, and a member of the local 28
- 29 police, or sheriff, depending upon what was organized.

- 1 We had a questionnaire which I would be happy to share
- 2 with you. It will certainly be copied in our final report, in
- 3 which there are a series of what we thought of as core items,
- 4 that were asked of everyone, and then some role-specific items
- 5 designed to enquire into the specific area that the person's role
- 6 suggested they would have some special ability to discuss with us
- 7 on the telephone.
- In every case these were directed at trying to answer
- 9 the question, in essence what they could say about, based upon
- 10 their general experience, as well as their ability to look at
- 11 data that might be in their domain of expertise, about the impact
- 12 on their community of the proximity of the casino that had opened
- 13 in the recent past.
- One thing we did nearly universally achieve was to talk
- 15 to people who had been in the community for a substantial enough
- 16 period of time that they could speak to this on the basis of
- 17 before and after, and not simply on the basis of having arrived
- 18 there a year or two ago. And we document, to some degree here.
- 19 And in the report pick out a couple of communities,
- 20 more to demonstrate sort of the end points of the range of kinds
- 21 of response between communities.
- 22 And I should add that we have made every effort here to
- 23 avoid identifying information about the communities, including
- 24 the fact that all these names that we have applied are the names
- of places in Canada, none of them are in the U.S.
- And, again, I've tried to summarize these results in a
- 27 couple of overheads. And what we have tried to do here is to
- 28 summarize what we were told, since most of the folks we talked to
- 29 were fairly articulate.

- 1 Firstly, just in terms of the effect on other gaming
- 2 facilities, literally the majority of the places, someone or
- 3 multiple people reported that one or more racetracks had either
- 4 moved or gone bankrupt when the casino opened. Competition for
- 5 gaming dollars.
- 6 We see, sort of in micro here, what we've seen to some
- extent in macro, as we've had a succession of facilities and 7
- 8 industries within the general community of gaming.
- 9 People said, very explicitly, casinos in nearly every
- case, they either create new jobs in themselves, but the fact of 10
- 11 having a casino does not sort of cure unemployment in the area.
- 12 I'm not sure anyone might expect that, although some people
- 13 expect miracles whenever new industry opens.
- 14 This was said repeatedly, that the jobs are often
- relatively low paying, or part time, and without benefits. 15
- 16 without, really, specific reference to the casino industry, in
- many of these communities, people indicated that having large 17
- numbers of people who are working poor, who had jobs but weren't 18
- 19 making a lot of money was viewed as a community problem, in
- 20 contrast to lots of people not having jobs at all.
- 21 That is, people who do need community services, have
- 22 trouble making ends meet, have financial problems. And let me
- 23 again say this is not -- this is a problem because of, or even in
- relation to casinos, it is a fundamental community problem. 24
- 25 People whose earnings, when they work, are not very high.
- 26 They did reiterate something we had seen
- 27 statistical data, that the hospitality industry, housing and
- hotels, that housing construction, specially, and other jobs were 28
- 29 clearly created as a consequence of the casino arriving in the

- 1 community, generating other kinds of industries, it generates
- 2 employment.
- 3 There was consistent mention that indebtedness seemed
- 4 to increase. There was, in different areas, different sort of
- 5 views about this, one of which was that people who already were
- 6 having trouble making ends meet, as a result of seeing new jobs,
- would move into the community from elsewhere. 7
- 8 And thinking that they were going to do well now that
- 9 they had a job, would run up credit, and again not necessarily
- gambling credit, they would just spend more money than they had, 10
- 11 and exacerbate their existing problems.
- 12 Despite the statistical evidence in which at least
- 13 looking at, I should specify in the statistical data we were
- 14 looking at major crimes, and we were unable to detect any changes
- 15 in major crime rates.
- 16 And I should note that what are called part II offenses
- in the FBI data, we've had a difficult time getting from the FBI, 17
- 18 and then being able to analyze. And those part II offenses are
- 19 the ones that go more into white collar, and misdemeanor, and
- 20 less the sort of personal property crime.
- We heard substantial, in every community literally, a 21
- 22 widespread perception that there had been increases in crime by
- 23 youth, and forgery and credit card theft, and domestic violence,
- in child neglect, in gambling problems per se, and in alcohol and 24
- 25 drug offenses.
- 26 And in some ways this is a conundrum that we can't
- 27 resolve, that we don't see this in the statistical data, but we
- did hear this from people who live in the communities. 28
- 29 whether there are, and one possibility clearly is that instances

- 1 drive people's perception, whether the instances are, in fact,
- 2 statistically widespread, or significant, or not.
- 3 That is one possibility that what we see is people
- 4 responding to things that they see that occur, even though in the
- 5 larger scheme of the whole trend of things in the community they
- 6 don't add up to a lot.
- 7 That draws to a conclusion about what we've been able
- 8 to pull together from looking at these case studies, which were
- 9 part of our responsibility, and part of our contract that we will
- 10 deliver. I'm not sure we can get it all delivered by the 15th.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Dean, I, as you will recall from
- 12 the Research Subcommittee, I expressed, along the way, a good
- 13 deal of concern about whether or not NORC was approaching the
- 14 community data base study with sufficient concentration and
- 15 attention.
- And I, particularly, in view of having made those
- 17 comments on more than one occasion, I want to say that with
- 18 respect to the community data base study, it is my opinion that
- 19 -- and I want to make both this comment and the next comment
- 20 quite apart from any specific result.
- I think with respect to the community data base study
- 22 that you did an excellent job of delivering exactly what was
- 23 asked for, and I appreciate that, because that was the subject of
- 24 considerable interest to me.
- 25 At the same time I'm disappointed in the case study.
- 26 In hindsight it may be that we asked you to do something that was
- 27 inherently impossible to do with any particular depth. And if so
- 28 that was our fault and not yours.

- 1 But there are several things that, to me, are sort of
- 2 missing from the case study part. Just as an example, it seems
- 3 to me that amongst the type of people that you consulted it would
- 4 have been, and it is hindsight now, but it would have been a good
- 5 idea to consult either an employment specialist with the state or
- 6 local government, or a union leader, or somebody who knows
- 7 something about employment.
- 8 And, likewise, given the employment patters in the
- 9 casino industry, I think it would have been a good idea, unless
- 10 some of these folks were included within the other categories you
- 11 listed, to consult leaders in the minority community, since that
- is where a lot of the jobs, particularly in new casinos tend to 12
- 13 come from.
- 14 I also think that the case studies present yet another
- 15 example of a point that is often missed, and not only in what
- 16 you've done in this particular thing, but is often missed in a
- lot of the discussion and presentation before our Commission, 17
- which is the differences with respect to employment and I believe 18
- 19 with respect to some of the problem gambling, and youth gambling
- 20 issues as well.
- 21 The differences among and between the kinds of
- 22 facilities that are lumped under the heading casino.
- 23 with respect to jobs.
- 24 Destination resorts tend to produce more full time
- 25 jobs, more jobs with benefits, more jobs that are secure and
- 26 stable, as compared to other smaller facilities that people often
- 27 call casino.

- 1 That is a distinction that we have discussed many times
- in the Research Subcommittee, but I fear we haven't really 2
- 3 fleshed out.
- 4 So in the case of the case studies, for example, I
- 5 think it would be interesting to know whether the kinds of
- 6 facilities that produce the kinds of community reaction that you
- are talking about were on the destination resort end of the 7
- 8 casino spectrum, or whether they were on the other smaller end.
- 9 Likewise I think it would be of some relevance to know
- whether or not they were unionized. 10 I think there is a
- 11 considerable amount of body of evidence here, in the record of
- 12 the Commission that says that unionized casinos are more likely
- 13 to produce "better jobs" than non-union.
- 14 finally, I was mystified by the selection of
- 15 communities for the case studies, in one particular respect. And
- 16 that is that out of ten communities, I'm going by memory here,
- but at least two and maybe three were approximate to the two 17
- Indian casinos in Connecticut, which struck me as kind of an odd, 18
- 19 you know, tilt.
- 20 And it is the case that those casinos tend to have
- 21 considerable number of part time jobs, for example.
- 22 So using those kinds of issues as examples, I thought
- -- I was disappointed in the case study part. And, again, it may 23
- be that we gave you an assignment that couldn't be carried out 24
- 25 with any kind of particular depth in the time or dollars that we
- 26 made available.
- 27 So that may well not be your fault. But
- particularly want to emphasize, in view of some of the previous 28

- 1 discussions in the subcommittee, I think you did a thorough and
- 2 good job on the community data base, and I appreciate that.
- 3 DR. GERSTEIN: Thank you. I think trying to cover a
- 4 lot of bases with ten sites is difficult. And, again, obviously
- 5 with the benefit of hindsight, and a different funding base,
- 6 doing this in a lot more instances might have been able to speak
- 7 to some of the differences that with that small a number you
- 8 can't compare.
- 9 I will look into both the point of what kinds of
- 10 casinos, in particular, I think the dimension of union, and the
- 11 dimension to what extent these are resort destination style is
- 12 certainly we can add to the points that we make in addressing
- 13 that case study results.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Thank you.
- 15 COMMISSIONER MCCARTHY: Madam Chair, John Wilhelm's
- 16 questions prompt me to make this suggestion.
- Among, I hope, what will be a number of well framed
- 18 suggestions for future areas of research, I think maybe now that
- 19 our contractors have the experience that they have in this area,
- 20 it would be also very useful if they would give the Research
- 21 Subcommittee, and the full Commission, their specific thoughts
- 22 on, not only -- first on how we might have better designed some
- 23 of what we did, such as the ten case studies.
- 24 You know, it may just be numbers for a greater
- 25 selection. It may be, obviously, with 30 case studies you could
- 26 do a lot better. But whatever suggestions there might be.
- 27 And, in addition, specifically, what next steps should
- 28 be taken as far as research are concerned. We should ask those
- 29 questions, I think, of our main contractors.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2. COMMISSIONER LOESCHER: Madam Chair, I've listened to
- 3 this all day, and maybe I'm missing something. But I noticed in
- 4 the front section of the first part of the presentation this
- 5 morning that the work doesn't really draw any conclusions, not
- 6 any organized or in-depth conclusions.
- 7 There were some along the way that we heard from your
- 8 At what point do we get some conclusions out of this
- 9 group with regard to the work that they have done? Do you have
- 10 any --
- 11 COMMISSIONER MCCARTHY: You are looking at me, so I
- 12 will answer. I think that is maybe more our job, probably, than
- 13 this particular contractor's. I think maybe what we would want
- 14 to do is look at the body of information they have given us, and
- 15 then start to develop findings and recommendations.
- 16 Well, the findings will be pretty much what they have
- given us, and then try to fashion recommendations based on those 17
- 18 findings that would be included in the final report.
- 19 think that is what the Chair is asking the
- 20 subcommittees to do. Now, the Research Subcommittee has not done
- 21 that, and is certainly not prepared to do that at this meeting,
- because the reports just came in, and they are not even complete 22
- 23 yet.
- 24 So, hopefully, by the time we meet again in March we
- 25 will have a number of specific things to say.
- 26 CHAIR JAMES: And in fairness to our --
- 27 COMMISSIONER MCCARTHY: To recommend for your
- 28 consideration.

- 1 CHAIR JAMES: In fairness to our contractors, as well,
- 2 they are here today to give us their preliminary -- I hate to
- 3 even use the word findings at this point in the process,
- 4 recognizing that the data is not yet completely analyzed.
- 5 And so I think in a sense we are a little premature
- 6 with perhaps even trying to draw any conclusions or findings at
- 7 this particular point, or recommendations based on this.
- 8 is with anticipation that we wait those final conclusions.
- 9 Additional discussion on the community analysis?
- 10 (No response.)
- CHAIR JAMES: Again, I want to thank you for being here 11
- today, and for your flexibility in splitting your presentation 12
- 13 from this morning to this afternoon.